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of attaining it, 2 Cor. 5:14,15; Rom. 5:10; 6:4,5; Col. 3:1-4; Phil. 3:10, etc.; 3) the certainty of personal resurrection of the whole man, 1 Cor. 15:20; John 6:39,40; 1 Thes. 4:14. 2. The resurrection of Jesus in its bearing upon the relations and conditions of the resurrection life and society; 1) "we shall know each other there;" 2) a perfected fellowship with the divine-human Jesus Christ, Phil. 1:23.

### STUDY XXXI.—THE LAST INSTRUCTIONS. MARK 16:9-20.

**Résumé.** 1. An account of the burial and resurrection of Jesus. 2. An estimate of the character and relation of the accounts of the resurrection. 3. The importance of the resurrection as a fact in the Christian history.

#### I. The Material Analyzed.

*Read carefully* Mk. 16:9-20, and be able to make a definite statement concerning each of the following points, e. g.:

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|---|---|
| 1. His first appearance and its sequel (vs. 9-11);  | 4. his instructions and promises (vs. 15-18); |
| 2. another appearance and its sequel (vs. 12,13);   | 5. his subsequent departure (v. 19);          |
| 3. his appearance and rebuke to the eleven (v. 14); | 6. their apostolic activity (v. 20).          |

#### II. The Material Compared.

1. With Mk. 16:9-11 cf. John 20:11-18.
2. With Mk. 16:12,13 cf. Lk. 24:13-35.
3. With Mk. 16:14-18 cf. Mt. 28:16-20; Lk. 24:36-49; John 20:19-23.
4. With Mk. 16:19,20 cf. Lk. 24:50-53; Acts 1:6-14.
5. Observe 1) the apparent discrepancy in Mk. 16:14 and Mt. 28:16 as to place; 2) the form of Mk. 16:9-20, (a) a summary of events detailed in the other narratives, (b) lacking the vivid detail of Mark.
6. In connection with Mk. 16:1-20 and parallels the student would find it profitable to make a list of the events and circumstances gathering about the resurrection and ascension.

#### III. The Material Explained.

##### 1. TEXTUAL TOPICS AND QUESTIONS.

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|---|--|
| 1) V. 9. (a) <i>Appeared</i> ; the word may be used (1) of visions in dreams, etc. (Mt. 1:20), or (2) of actual bodily sight (Lk. 9:8). Note the same word, vs. 12,14. (b) <i>From whom he had cast out</i> , etc.; (1) cf. Lk. 8:2; (2) why mentioned here rather than in 15:40? | 7) V. 16. <i>Believeeth and is baptized</i> ; (a) both required; (b) significance in order?  |
| 2) V. 11. <i>When</i> ; better "though."  | 8) V. 17. <i>Them that believe</i> ; (a) does this signify (1) the whole body of believers? or (2) certain individuals among them? (b) how may this be said to be fulfilled? Cf. Acts 8:7; 2:4; 28:5; 28:8, etc.               |
| 3) V. 12. <i>In another form</i> ; cf. Lk. 24:16, i. e. changed somehow so that they did not recognize the old familiar form.   | 9) V. 19. (a) <i>Lord Jesus</i> ; significance of the title (1) as regards belief of the writer, (2) as bearing upon the authorship of these verses. (b) <i>Sat down</i> , etc.; (1) cf. Ps. 110:1; (2) it was the same Jesus. |
| 4) V. 13. <i>Neither believed they</i> ; so vs. 11,14; why so emphasize this?   | 10) V. 20. (a) <i>Everywhere</i> ; learn something of the extent of the apostolic preaching of the Gospel. (b) Note the two-fold activity of the ascended Lord.  |
| 5) V. 14. <i>Upbraided</i> ; same word as in 15:32.   |  |
| 6) V. 15. (a) <i>He said</i> ; either (1) on the same occasion as v. 14, or (2) as in Mt. 28:18. (b) <i>Whole creation</i> ; i. e. only limited by capacity to receive.   |  |

## 2. GENERAL TOPICS.

- 1) **The Last Twelve Verses of Mark.** Vs. 9-20. (a) Note the difference of opinion in regard to the relation of this section to the rest of the Gospel; (b) the view that these verses were not originally a part of the Gospel; grounds for it, (1) the manuscripts; (2) the difference in literary style, peculiar expressions, want of vivid detail, etc.; (3) tradition; (c) the argument for its being an original part of the Gospel, (1) manuscripts; (2) early testimony and usage; (3) abrupt ending of v. 8; (d) the view that Mark added it at a later time; (e) the authority which it carries, if not by Mark.
- 2) **The Risen Jesus.** (a) Study the Scripture statements as to the life and person of Jesus during this period; cf. Mk. 16:9,12,14; Mt. 28:9,17; Lk. 24:15,16, 30,31,36,37,39,43; John 20:15,17,19,27; 21:4,13,15; Acts 1:3; (b) observe that from Acts 1:3 this period is called "the great forty days"; (c) decide, if possible, from the above passages between the following views: (1) Jesus rose with his perfected "resurrection body," in which he manifests himself to the disciples; (2) Jesus rose with his earthly body, which at the time of his ascension was transformed into the "resurrection body"; (3) he rose with his earthly body, which was, during this period, gradually being transformed, etc.; (4) he adopted an earthly body for these appearances, the glorified body with which he rose being suited only for the heavenly life; (d) suggest some reasons why Jesus appeared so seldom and to the disciples only; (e) note some results of this forty days' period, (1) certainty of the resurrection; (2) restoration of Peter, John 21:15-17; (3) instruction as to the future, cf. Acts 1:3-8; (4) organization of the new community, Mt. 28:18-20.
- 3) **The Ascension.** (a) Study the Scripture statements, Mk. 16:19; Lk. 24:51; Acts 1:9; (b) compare also Lk. 9:51; John 14:2,12; 16:5,28; 17:11; 20:17; Eph. 4:10; (c) note the relation between the resurrection and the ascension; (d) the bearing of these statements and considerations in (a) (b) (c) upon the objective reality of the ascension; (e) some reasons why no direct statements are given in Matthew and John; (f) significance of the ascension, (1) its naturalness in the life of Jesus; (2) as the means to his exaltation; (3) its bearing on the locality of heaven; (4) in the life of the church and the individual believer, Mk. 16:20; John 16:7.

## IV. The Material Organized.

1. *Gather the material* and classify it under the following heads: 1) persons; 2) important events; 3) habits and customs; 4) Jesus as man and as more than man; 5) literary data; 6) miracles.
2. *Condense the material* into the briefest possible statement, e. g.:
  - v. 9. He appears after his resurrection first to Mary Magdalene, a healed demoniac.
  - v. 10. She tells his mourning disciples.
  - v. 11. They disbelieve her story.
  - vs. 9-11. *Mary Magdalene is the first to see the risen Jesus and tells his disciples, but they disbelieve her.*
  - v. 12. Later, two, on a country walk, see him in another form.
  - v. 13. They tell of it, but are not believed.
  - vs. 12,13. *Two who see him as they walk tell of it, but are not believed.*
  - v. 14. The eleven, while at meat, see him: he chides them for not believing those who saw him.
  - v. 15. He says to them, "Go, preach everywhere to everybody."
  - v. 16. "He who believes and is baptized shall be saved; he who believes not, condemned."
  - v. 17. "Believers shall, as signs, cast out devils in my name and speak new tongues."
  - v. 18. "They shall handle serpents and drink poison without harm; shall heal the sick."
  - v. 19. Thereon the Lord Jesus goes into heaven and sits at God's right hand.
  - v. 20. They preach everywhere, the Lord helping and giving signs. Amen.

vs. 14-20. *He appears to the eleven, chides them for their unbelief, bids them preach everywhere, saying, "Baptized believers shall be saved, unbelievers condemned; believers shall work signs of power and mercy." Then he ascends to God's right hand; they preach everywhere, attended by his effectual help.*

vs. 9-20. *When the disciples disbelieved the story of Mary, who first saw him risen, and the two, who saw him as they walked, he appears to them, chides them, bids them preach everywhere, promising salvation and miraculous power to believers. He ascends to God; they with his effectual help preach everywhere.*

### V. The Material Applied.

**THE MISSION OF DISCIPLES.** Mk. 16:15,16. 1. These commands of Jesus in their bearing upon disciples in every age; 1) by reason of their common Christian life; 2) so far as in previous ages disciples have failed to obey them. 2. The unlimited obligation conditioned on the promise, Mt. 28:20. 3. Possibility of accomplishing in the present age the work commanded. 4. Preaching considered as the great work, involving 1) proclamation, 2) persuasion to obedience, Mt. 28:19, 3) instruction, Mt. 28:20. 5. Its result, 1) faith leading to baptism and securing salvation or 2) unbelief, incurring condemnation. 6. How am I related to the last instructions of Jesus the Christ?

## STUDY XXXII.—REVIEW OF THE LATER PERIOD. MARK 10:1-16:20.

**Introductory.** 1. In bringing to a close these studies upon Mark's Gospel and before taking up the remaining eight "studies" (a topical view of the Life and Times of Jesus the Christ), it will be found helpful (1) to review Studies XVIII.-XXI. somewhat carefully, and (2) to obtain a more or less complete view of the whole Gospel. 2. The purpose will be to gather up the results which the separate "studies" have produced. Hence the student's work will be directed to obtaining general views; the material will be taken up as a whole; the directions given and help furnished will be suggestive. 3. Do not underrate the importance of this review. It is the most valuable part of the whole work. What has been done before is incomplete without this. It will serve to organize and fix in the mind the results of previous studies. 4. In connection with this "study" one of the smaller lives of Jesus might profitably be read. Stalker's "Life of Jesus Christ" or Vallings' "Jesus Christ the Divine Man,"\* are recommended. 5. The spirit in which to enter upon this "study" is important to consider. So comprehensive, so valuable a work, one, too, which involves some drudgery and patient thought and perseverance, will require an earnest determination to be faithful to the end.

### I. The Events of the Later Period.†

1. Read over again as a whole Mk. 10:1-16:20 and organize the material about the following divisions: 1) the later active ministry, 10:1-52; 2) the last week, 11:1-15:47; 3) the consummation, 16:1-20.
2. Insert in their proper places among the events of each division the chief additional facts furnished in the other gospels.
3. Study and combine the chronological statements to learn something about the duration of the later ministry.
4. Make as a final result a condensed statement covering the life and work of Jesus during this period.

\* JESUS CHRIST, THE DIVINE MAN; HIS LIFE AND TIMES. By J. F. Vallings, M. A. In the series of "Men of the Bible." New York: A. D. F. Randolph & Co. Price \$1.00. An excellent work dealing with the spiritual and universal elements in the life of Jesus.

† In the study of this section the student will find serviceable the materials gathered in his note book, as also in the course of the topics to follow.